

County Trends



San Juan

December 2002

A Local Economic Perspective

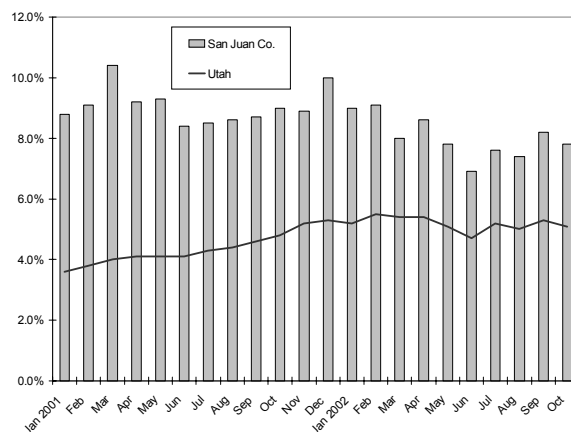
San Juan County 2002 - Jobs Rebound

San Juan County's economy showed solid growth during the first half of 2002. Growth was concentrated in tourist related industries, health care, and construction. Year-over jobs grew in both the first and second quarters of 2002. Expanding employment has led to a decline in the county's unemployment rate. The most current unemployment rate for October 2002 was 7.8 percent, a 1.2 percentage points drop from the 9.0 percent registered in October 2001.

Jobs Show Improvement

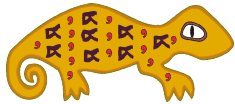
Year-over nonfarm employment experienced steady growth in San Juan County during the first two quarters of 2002. Nonfarm jobs increased 2.6 percent in the first quarter followed by a 2.0 percent jump in the second quarter. Construction posted solid gains, particularly for special trade workers. However, mining and manufacturing jobs declined. Mining jobs dipped as oil and gas exploration projects were completed or curtailed. Manufacturing jobs also fell for wood products.

Seasonally Adjusted San Juan County Unemployment Rates

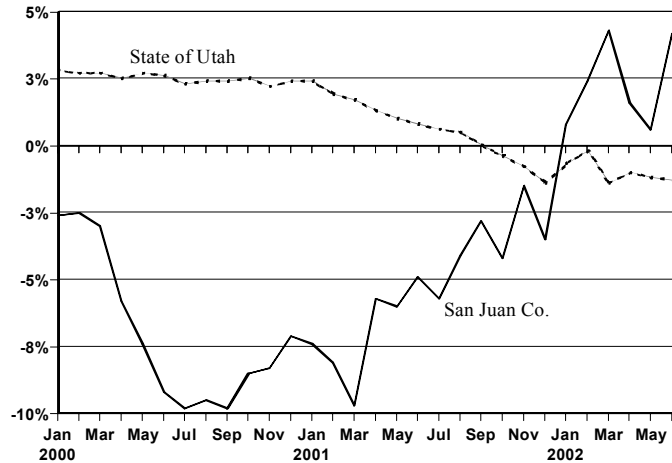


Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services.





Year-Over Change in San Juan County Employment



Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services.

To the Point

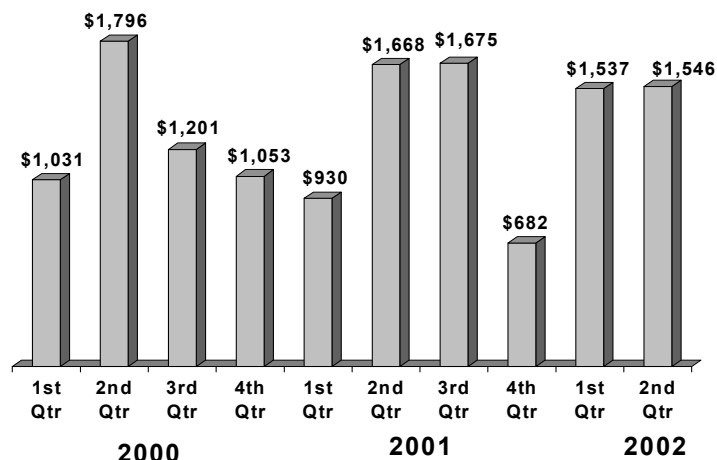
San Juan County's job outlook brightened during the first half of 2002. A growing recreation industry helped spur employment growth. Construction activity also helped to boost employment opportunities for county residents.

The services-production industries accounted for most of the job growth in San Juan County. Year-over data for the first half of 2002 show that a jobs were added in health care, recreation, lodging, food services, and government. Medical clinics and social assistance added positions. Recreation related jobs showed strong growth as the word gets out about the quality of recreation activities available. Lodging, food services, and allied industries to recreation also expanded to meet increased demand. Growth in government was concentrated in local government, particularly education and administration. Federal jobs declined slightly. Employment also fell in retail trade and transportation.

Construction Activity Rises

Year-over construction activity, as measured by permit authorizations, showed a rise of 18.7 percent in total valuation for the first six months of 2002. Residential units increased 25 percent as both single-family and manufactured homes increased. Residential values

San Juan County Total Construction Permit Valuation



(Thousands of dollars)

Source: Utah Bureau of Economic & Business Research.



however were virtually unchanged. Nonresidential valuations rose as did the valuation of renovation work.

Sales Are Strong

Year-over gross taxable sales showed hearty growth in the first quarter (11.4%) and the second quarter (11.2%) of 2002. Mining sales improved dramatically. Construction, manufacturing, and communication sales also increased. Wholesale trade sales were robust. Services sales rose for lodging and business services. Retail trade sales were flat.

Outlook for the Rest of 2002

San Juan County will continue to see growth throughout 2002. Growth may slow as the effects of the recession take their toll on the state and county economies. The gradual recovery will be strong enough to sustain positive growth in San Juan County.

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Quick Facts

October 2002

Unemployment Rate

San Juan County	7.8%
Utah	5.2%
U.S.	5.6%

June 2002 Change from Previous Year

Job Growth

San Juan County	4.2%
Utah	-1.3%
U.S.	-1.1%

2nd Qtr 2002 Change from Previous Year

Construction Values

San Juan County	18.7%
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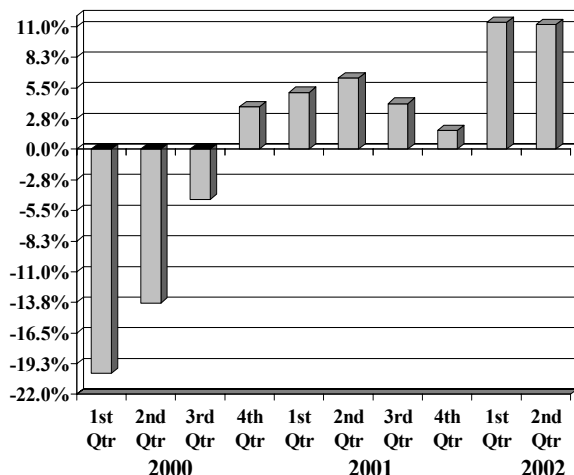
Sales

San Juan County	11.2%
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Source: Utah Dept of Workforce Services,
Bureau of Labor Statistics,
Utah Tax Commission,
Bureau of Econ & Business Research.

**For more economic information about San Juan County see:
<http://jobs.utah.gov/wi/Regions/County.asp>**

Year-Over Change in San Juan County Gross Taxable Sales



Source: Utah Tax Commission.

The mission of the Utah Department of Workforce Services is to provide quality, accessible, and comprehensive employment-related and supportive services responsive to the needs of employers, job seekers, and the community.

What's Up? ⁴

- Utah state agencies and the Navajo Tribe will build a \$3.8-million visitor welcome center, amphitheater, and retail village at Hwy. 163 and Oljato Road.
- The U.S. Department of Agriculture awarded an \$800,000 grant to Blanding City for improvements to its water transmission system.
- A federal grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development office to the Rocky Mountain Farmers Union Education and Charitable Foundation will help to reopen the Montezuma Creek sewing plant providing 72 jobs.

For more economic events, see:

<http://jobs.utah.gov/wi/Regions/eastern/sanjuan/sanjuanee.pdf>

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Equal Opportunity Employment Program
Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Call (801) 526-9240. Individuals with speech and/or hearing impairments may call the state relay at 1-800-346-4128



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